

What Pipeline
NADA Miami Beach 2015
Booth 3.09

Nolan Simon was born in 1980 in Detroit, Michigan where he now lives and works. Recent solo exhibitions include Green Gallery, Milwaukee; 47 Canal, New York; Lars Friedrich, Berlin; and Reisebürogalerie, Cologne. His work has been included in exhibitions at White Columns, Sculpture Center, and Cleopatra's in New York; Cave and What Pipeline in Detroit; Night Club in Chicago; Sies and Höke in Düsseldorf.

Greatly influenced by the Internet's ability to distort an image's provenance, Simon uses his art practice as a way to embrace the difficulties which open-source sharing has brought to theories of appropriation and copyright. To make his paintings, Simon inverts, projects and then traces digital-image files pulled from online chat rooms, innumerable websites and person emails. The overt use of found images turn Simon's paintings into representations of networks of inspiration. Couple with a style that recalls the deliberate reduction of Alex Katz, and a color palette more akin to that of James Rosenquist, Simon's paintings make for uncanny images of reality.

"... I allow myself to pull from and use liberally sources that in one way or another claim access to truth. I'm not much of a stylist. I'm much more interested in the gravity and grammar of images and questions surrounding the social role of the painter." - Nolan Simon, Flash Art, 8/15

Puppies Puppies was born online, in a hospital, in the former Yugoslavia and also in Texas. Recent solo exhibitions include Neue Alte Brücke, Frankfurt; Vilma Gold, London, Queer Thoughts, NYC; Freddy, Baltimore; and What Pipeline, Detroit. Upcoming exhibitions include XYZ Collective, Tokyo and Halle Für Kunst Lüneburg. His video work is featured in Coworkers (a DIS magazine installation), Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.

Charles and Ray Eames' landmark film "The Power of Ten" is subtitled "A Film Dealing With the Relative Size of Things in the Universe and the Effect of Adding a Zero". This subtitle lends itself well to the readymades, videos and performances by Puppies Puppies. Through subtle positioning of blue, yellow or green readymade objects, Puppies Puppies expresses an emotional topography of his time on this planet.

*"It fits into the Green works
But I was thinking about it a lot
As being relational to the size of a human
Way bigger but still more relational to the human size than the earth
But I talways thought about it as
Consciousness
Once the person's consciousness
Disappears through death or what have
The world as that person knows it is over it ends*

*The globe is filled with air closer to being ephemeral than a solid sculpture of earth
Instead filled with air
A larger air de Paris
But it has consumed and let off air from all over*

*Constantly taking on the air of whatever location it occupies
Because of its size
But yeah I was thinking of individuals
Every person being a living walking earth*

Only for everything to disappear if their consciousness were to vanish" - Puppies Puppies on Earth